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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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Lt. Col. Charles J. Gilroy, Jr., USMC (Ret.) Township of Dover Toms River, New Jersey 08753

Dear Colonel Gilroy:

Like you, I am much concerned over the plight of the many refugees such as Mr. Khan Ghalib and his family who were displaced and left destitute by the North Vietnamese conquest of South Vietnam. Many refugees of various nationalities are stranded in Thailand and other countries of South East Asia and the prospects for their resettlement in the United States under the Indochina Refugee Parole Program are most unpromising. In Mr. Ghalib's case, specifically, there is nothing this Agency can do to assist.

The criteria for parole of Vietnamese refugees into the United States were established by the Interagency Task Force for Indochina Refugees together with the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The intent of the program was to provide a haven for Vietnamese who, because of their association with the former American presence in South Vietnam, were unable to remain in their homeland. Third country nationals were presumed to have roots in their countries of origin to which they could return. If they wish to come to the United States, they must apply for immigration in the normal way under provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Since Mr. Ghalib is not an ethnic Vietnamese, it would appear he is excluded from parole under the established criteria, with immigration through normal procedures his only recourse. In any case, the Department of State is the appropriate agency to advise you concerning Mr. Ghalib's status as a possible immigrant.

In the meantime, it would appear that as a former senior non-commissioned officer in the British Indian Army, Mr. Ghalib might be able to obtain assistance through the Indian and British Embassies in Bangkok. It is possible that resettlement could be arranged either in India or the United Kingdom.

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I regret that I cannot be of more assistance to you and Mr. Ghalib. All I can do is hope that through the efforts of his friends a speedy remedy can be found.

Sincerely Colby

W. E. Colby Director

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